

THE IDENTITY OF THE FLORIDA RACE OF
LEPTOTES (LEPIDOPTERA,
LYCÆNIDÆ)

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The *Leptotes* commonly found in Florida has for some time passed under the name of *L. theonus floridensis* Morrison.¹ An examination of a series of Florida specimens (including two cotypes of *floridensis*) in comparison with a large number of individuals from Cuba (type locality of *theonus*²) has shown that the specimens from the two localities are of the same form, and that as a consequence the name *floridensis* should be placed as a synonym of *theonus*. The only character that would seem to offer any basis for the retention of the name *floridensis* is that Cuban specimens frequently show a larger amount of white on the hind wing above in the male than is to be found in the Florida form, but as this is so variable in both Cuba and Florida (specimens from both places frequently being found with and without this white) there seems to be no reason for keeping the Florida specimens separate.

Theonus itself is but a race of the South American *cassius*³ differing in the bluer hind wing above in the male, and the larger anal spots below on this wing in both sexes. The maculation is also heavier, especially on the hind wing.

Specimens have been examined from the following localities:

Leptotes cassius cassius Cramer.

Brasil: Rio de Janeiro; Canto Gallo; Para; Blumenau. Paraguay: Buena Vista. Argentina: Cordoba. "Colombia." "Amazon."

¹ 1873, Bull. Buffalo Soc. Nat. Sci., 1, p. 187 (Notes on North American Lepidoptera).

² Lucas, 1857, Lépidoptères in Ramon de la Sagra, Histoire physique, politique et naturelle de l'île de Cuba. Animaux Articulés. Paris. [Vol. VII.] p. 611, pl. 16, f. 8, 8a, 8b. [This reference was not available to me, and was quoted from M. Bates, 1935, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., 78, pp. 246 and 198 (The Butterflies of Cuba).]

³ Cramer, 1779, Papillons Exotiques, 1, p. 36, pl. 23, figs. c, d.

Leptotes cassius theonus Lucas.

Florida: Orlando; Sanibel Island; Miami; Key Largo; Royal Palm State Park; Upper Matecumbe Key; Soldier's Key; Key West (cotypes of *floridensis*). Bahamas: N. Bimini Id.; New Providence Id.; Cat Id.; Southern Eleuthera Id.; Gt. Inagua Id.; Stranger's Cay (Little Abaco Id.). Cuba: Soledad, Cienfuegos; Viñales; Rangel; Habana; Sierra Maestra (1000 ft.). Jamaica: St. Ann's Bay; Baron Hill, Jackson Town. Hispaniola: Ennery (1000 ft.); Port-au-Prince; La Selle Mts. (6000 ft.) (all Haiti); Beata Id. (Santo Domingo). Mexico: Acapulco. Honduras: Subirano Yoro; Bonacca Id. and Roatan Id. (both in the Bay Ids.); Minas de Oro (4000 ft.).